MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

February 4, 2004 ROOM 225 STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

Members Present: Rep. Sheryl Allen, Co-Chairman

Sen. Curtis Bramble
Sen. Gene Davis
President Al Mansell
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Greg J. Curtis
Rep. Steven R. Mascaro
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss

Members Excused: Sen. Scott Jenkins, Co-Chairman

Staff Present: Dr. Andrea Wilko, Fiscal Analyst

Cherri White, Committee Secretary

Note: A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

Co-Chair Allen called the meeting to order at 2:12 P.M. and indicated that Senator Jenkins would be excused due to illness, and that due to conflicts in the schedule Craig Peterson and Dave Sorensen, Manufacturer's Extension Partnership would give their presentation first.

Mr. Craig Peterson and Dave Sorenson, Manufacturer's Extension Partnership, discussed the program. Mr. Peterson indicated that they were requesting an appropriation so that they are able to apply for matching federal funds. It was also indicated that funding for additional FTE's was being requested. (See handouts on file)

Dr. Wilko gave the Analyst's presentation and budget recommendation for the Division of Business and Economic Development, Incentive Funds, and Travel Development. Dr. Wilko indicated that the programs under this division promote and develop Utah's economy through business expansion and retention. Dr. Wilko recommended the committee adopt the following intent language:

"It is the intent of the Legislature that funding for Business Development be non-lapsing subject to the provisions of UCA 63038-8.1."

"Funds encumbered to pay contractual obligations issued prior to May 1 shall also be considered non-lapsing."

The programs supported under this division include the Defense Conversion Program, Utah Sports Commission, Governor's Trade Missions, Film Commission, International Trade, Business Development, and Technology and Science. The Division is involved in assisting local

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businesses in their expansion efforts, providing employment opportunities to the Utah Film industry, and by expanding Utah's high tech industry.

The Travel Council develops the State's economy through tourism. Dr. Wilko recommended the following intent language for the Travel Council:

"It is the intent of the Legislature that funding for Travel Development be non-lapsing subject to the provisions of UCA 63-38-8.1."

"Funds encumbered to pay contractual obligations issued prior to May 1 shall also be considered non-lapsing."

Within the Travel Development Department there is a Strategic Development Program that assist in the process by using applied research and long-term planning in the decision making process, use of Rural Technology Assistance to provide stable and diversified economic growth by adding economic value to tourism destinations, and the use of advertising in creating awareness of Utah as a travel destination.

Jeff Gochnour, Direction, Division of Economic Development, Dave Harmer, Director, Department Economic Development responded the the Analyst's budget recommendations. Mr. Harmer also addressed questions from the committee.

Mark Renda, Utah Incentive Funds, addressed the committee regarding the Analyst's recommendation.

Dean Reeder, Department of Utah Travel, and Randy Harmsen, Chairman, Utah Travel Council Board, addressed the committee regarding tourism in Utah and studies that had been conducted during the last year or two in connection with public knowledge of Utah. Mr. Harmsen addressed the committee regarding S.B. 208.

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As a quorum wasn't present Co-Chair Allen declared the meeting adjourned at 4:20 P.M.

Sen. Scott Jenkins, Co-Chair

Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, Co-Chair